<u>Commanding Officer's Policy on Equal</u> <u>Opportunity & Sexual Harassment</u>

My equal opportunity policy is simple... Marines and Sailors of this command shall treat <u>all people</u> with dignity and respect regardless of rank, race, color, religion, age, national origin, or gender. I will not tolerate behavior that demeans the dignity of another person.

This command will provide equal opportunities for all personnel.

Only individual talent, desire, and diligence will limit professional development. All personnel shall be held to the same standards and will be evaluated solely by their demonstrated performance.

The strength of our Corps comes from unit cohesion and the *esprit de corps* formed during hard training and the rigors of combat. These qualities are founded on trust and have allowed us to overcome hardships and win our nation's battles. As an organization, we must remain vigilant and protect each other from people who act contrary to this policy. As individuals, we must demonstrate moral courage and report cases of discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual assault. Turning a blind eye to such action is a violation of this policy and will be treated accordingly.

I charge leaders at all levels to immediately correct actions contrary to this policy and, as appropriate, inform their chain of command.

Any individual who feels they have experienced sexual harassment or discrimination, should first try to resolve the situation at the lowest possible level—with the individual utilizing the Informal Resolution System (IRS). If the Informal Resolution System is unsuccessful, then request mast.

No Marine should fear reprisal for reporting an equal opportunity or sexual harassment violation. I will deal quickly and effectively with any violations. Anyone who practices, condones, tolerates, or falsely reports such violations will be subject to administrative and disciplinary action.

For additional assistance, contact your unit Equal Opportunity Representative or the MAG-36 Equal Opportunity Advisor Gunnery Sergeant Gibbs at 636-3228.

R. M. BRASSAW

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps Commanding Officer, MAG-36